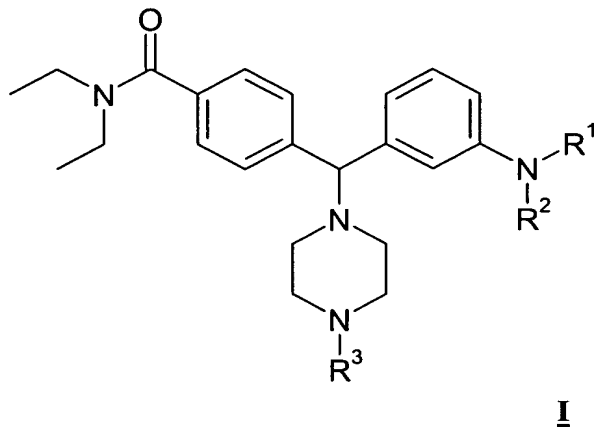


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (original) A compound of formula I, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein

R^1 is selected from C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-9} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-9} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, R^8 -C(=O)-, R^8 -S(=O)₂-, R^8 -S(=O)-, R^8 -NHC(=O)-, R^8 -C(=S)- and R^8 -NH-C(=S)-, wherein R^8 is selected from C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-9} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-9} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-9} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-9} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl used in defining R^1 and R^8 are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, selected from -H, C_{1-6} alkyl and phenyl;

R^2 is selected from -H and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C_{1-3} alkoxy, and halogen; and

R^3 is selected from -H, C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl,

and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, halogenated C₁₋₆alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁₋₆alkoxy and halogen.

Claim 2. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R¹ is selected from C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₃₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen;

R² is selected from -H and C₁₋₃alkyl; and

R³ is selected from -H and C₁₋₆alkyl-O-C(=O)-.

Claim 3. (original) A compound according to claim 2,

wherein R¹ is R⁹-CH₂-, wherein R⁹ is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, N-oxido-pyridyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, thienylmethyl, furylmethyl, imidazolylmethyl, triazolylmethyl, pyrrolylmethyl, thiazolylmethyl and N-oxido-pyridylmethyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy and halogen; and

R² and R³ are hydrogen.

Claim 4. (original) A compound according to claim 3,

wherein R⁹ is selected from benzyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl and thiazolyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen.

Claim 5. (original) A compound according to claim 4, wherein

wherein R⁹ is selected from benzyl, phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl and thiazolyl.

Claim 6. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 is selected from C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OH$, C_{1-3} alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen;

R^2 is $-H$ or C_{1-3} alkyl; and

R^3 is $-H$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OH$, C_{1-3} alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen.

Claim 7. (original) A compound according to claim 6, wherein

R^1 is selected from 1-propyl, 2-propyl, 1-butyl, 2-butyl, t-butyl, 2-methyl-1-propyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, and cyclononyl;

R^2 is selected from $-H$, methyl, ethyl, 1-propyl and 2-propyl; and

R^3 is selected from $-H$, methyl, ethyl, allyl, 3,3-dimethyl-allyl, cyclopropylmethyl, 2-methoxy-ethyl, and 3-methoxy-1-propyl.

Claim 8. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 is selected from $R^8-C(=O)-$, $R^8-S(=O)_2-$, $R^8-S(=O)-$, $R^8-NHC(=O)-$, $R^8-C(=S)-$ and $R^8-NH-C(=S)-$, wherein R^8 is selected from C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl; wherein said C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OH$, C_{1-3} alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen;

R^2 is $-H$; and

R^3 is selected from $-H$ and C_{1-6} alkyl- $O-C(=O)-$.

Claim 9. (original) A compound according to claim 8, wherein

R^8 is selected from phenyl, benzyl, phenethyl and cyclohexyl, wherein said phenyl, benzyl, phenethyl and cyclohexyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from methyl, methoxy and halogen.

Claim 10. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

N,N-diethyl-4-((S)-piperazin-1-yl {3-[(1,3-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl} methyl)benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-((R)-piperazin-1-yl {3-[(1,3-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl} methyl)benzamide;

4-[(S)-[3-(benzylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-((R)-piperazin-1-yl {3-[(thien-2-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl} methyl)benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-((S)-piperazin-1-yl {3-[(thien-2-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl} methyl)benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(S)-{3-[(2-furylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(R)-[3-(benzylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[(2-furylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-((R)-piperazin-1-yl {3-[(thien-3-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl} methyl)benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-((S)-piperazin-1-yl {3-[(thien-3-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl} methyl)benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[(3-furylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[(2-phenylethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(R)-{3-[(cyclohexylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-piperazin-1-yl(3-{[4-trifluoromethyl]benzyl}amino)phenyl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(R)-{3-[(cyclopentylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(S)-{3-[(cyclohexylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(R)-{3-[(cyclohex-1-en-1-ylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(S)-{3-[methyl(phenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(S)-{3-[ethyl(phenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[methyl(phenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[ethyl(phenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
4-[(R)-{3-[(cyclohexylmethyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-[3-(cyclopentylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-[3-(cycloheptylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-[3-(cyclooctylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-[3-(cyclononylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-[3-(cyclohexylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[(4-methylphenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(S)-{3-[(4-methylphenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
4-[(R)-{3-[(3-chlorophenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-{3-[(3-chlorophenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-{3-[(2-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-{3-[(2-fluorophenyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-[3-(benzoylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
N,N-diethyl-4-[(R)-{3-[(phenylacetyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;
4-[(S)-[3-(benzoylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-{3-[(phenylacetyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-{3-[(2-methyl-2-phenylpropanoyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-(3-{[(3-fluorophenyl)acetyl]amino}phenyl)(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-{3-[(cyclohexylacetyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-{3-[(3-phenylpropanoyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-{3-[(cyclohexylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-{3-[(phenylsulfonyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-{3-[(benzylsulfonyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-{3-[(phenylsulfonyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-{3-[(anilinocarbonyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(*R*)-{3-[(anilinocarbonothioyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-1-piperazinyl[3-(propylamino)phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*S*)-[3-(dipropylamino)phenyl]-1-piperazinylmethyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-1-piperazinyl[3-(propylamino)phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-[3-(dipropylamino)phenyl]-1-piperazinylmethyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-1-piperazinyl[3-[[[4-(3-pyridinyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-[3-[[[4-(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl]methyl]amino]-phenyl]-1-piperazinylmethyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-1-piperazinyl[3-[(2-quinolinylmethyl)amino]phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-[3-[(2,2-diphenylethyl)amino]phenyl]-1-piperazinylmethyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(*R*)-[3-[[[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]phenyl]-1-piperazinylmethyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-[3-[(4-phenoxyphenyl)methyl]amino]phenyl]-1-piperazinylmethyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-[4-(2-propenyl)-1-piperazinyl][3-(propylamino)-phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

4-{(*R*)-(3-aminophenyl)[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-{(*R*)-(3-aminophenyl)[4-(3-methoxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl][3-(propylamino)-phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-[4-(3-methoxypropyl)-1-piperazinyl][3-(propylamino)phenyl]methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*S*)-[3-(cycloheptylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(*S*)-[3-(cyclooctylamino)phenyl](piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*S*)-{3-[(3-phenylpropanoyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-(3-aminophenyl)[4-(2-propenyl)-1-piperazinyl]methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(*R*)-(3-aminophenyl)[4-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-1-piperazinyl]methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4-[(*R*)-(3-aminophenyl)[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl]methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-[4-(2-propenyl)-1-piperazinyl][3-[(2-thienylmethyl)amino]phenyl]methyl]-benzamide;

N,N-diethyl-4-[(*R*)-[4-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-1-piperazinyl][3-[(2-thienylmethyl)amino]phenyl]methyl]-benzamide;

4-[(*R*)-[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)-1-piperazinyl][3-[(2-thienylmethyl)amino]phenyl]methyl]-*N,N*-diethylbenzamide;

4- {(S)-[3-(cyclohexylamino)phenyl][4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-[3-(cyclohexylamino)phenyl](4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-[3-(cyclohexylamino)phenyl](4-ethylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4- {(S)-(4-allylpiperazin-1-yl)[3-(cyclohexylamino)phenyl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-{3-[(cyclohexylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-{3-[(cyclohexylacetyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(S)-{3-[cyclohexyl(methyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
4-[(R)-{3-[cyclohexyl(methyl)amino]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;
enantiomers thereof; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

11-12. (Cancelled)

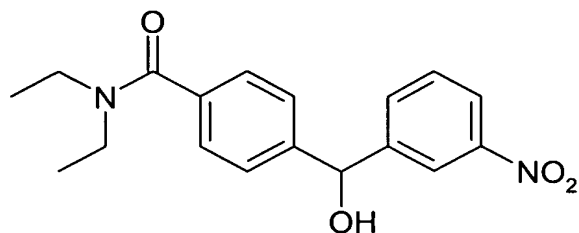
Claim 13. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-10~~claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 14. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-10~~claim 1.

Claim 15. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of functional gastrointestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-10~~claim 1.

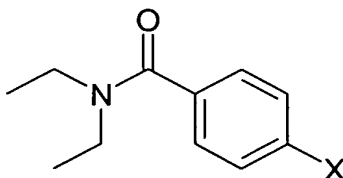
Claim 16. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of anxiety in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1-10claim 1.

Claim 17. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula II, comprising:



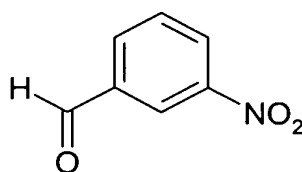
II

a) reacting a compound of formula III:



III

with a compound of formula IV

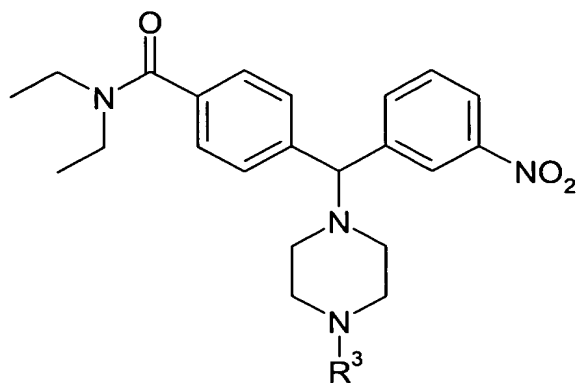


IV

in the presence of a base having a pK_a of more than 15
wherein

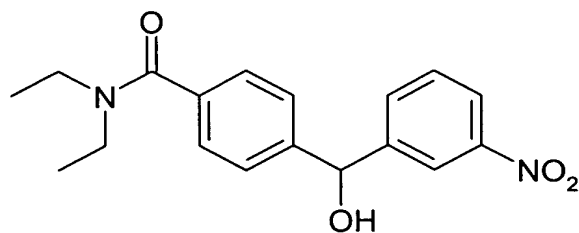
X is a halogen.

Claim 18. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula VI:



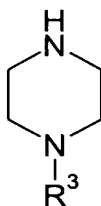
VI,

comprising: reacting a compound of formula II



II

with a compound of formula VII



VII

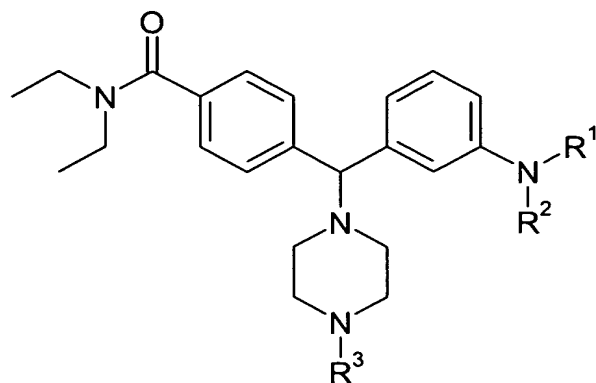
in the presence of SOX₂ to form the compound of formula VI,

wherein

R³ is selected from -H, C₁₋₆alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, halogenated C₁₋₆alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁₋₆alkoxy and halogen; and

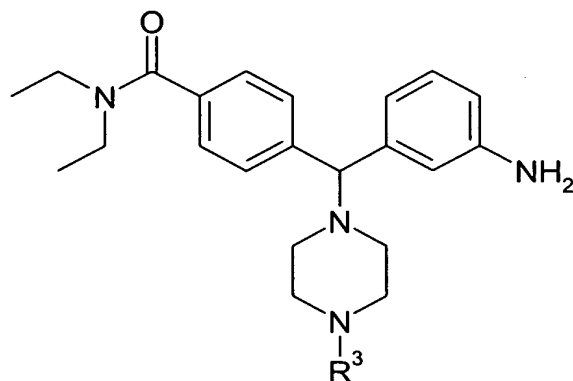
X is halogen.

Claim 19. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I,



I

comprising: reacting a compound of formula VIII,



VIII

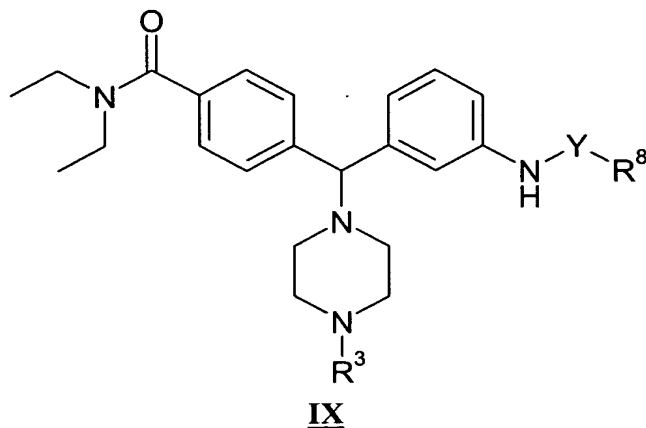
with R⁹-CHO in the presence of a reducing agent to form the compound of formula I:
wherein

R¹ is R⁹-CH₂-, wherein R⁹ is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, N-oxido-pyridyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, thienylmethyl, furylmethyl, imidazolylmethyl, triazolylmethyl, pyrrolylmethyl, thiazolylmethyl and N-oxido-pyridylmethyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C₁₋₃alkoxy, phenoxy and halogen;

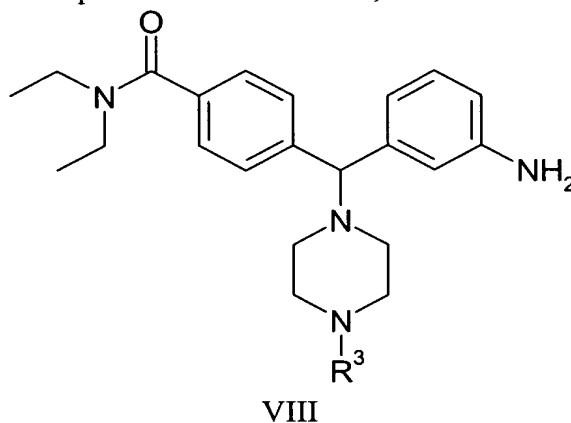
R² is -H; and

R³ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, halogenated C₁₋₆alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁₋₆alkoxy and halogen.

Claim 20. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula IX,



comprising: reacting a compound of formula VIII,



with R^8 -Y-X or R^8 -Y-O-Y- R^8 to form the compound of formula IX:
wherein

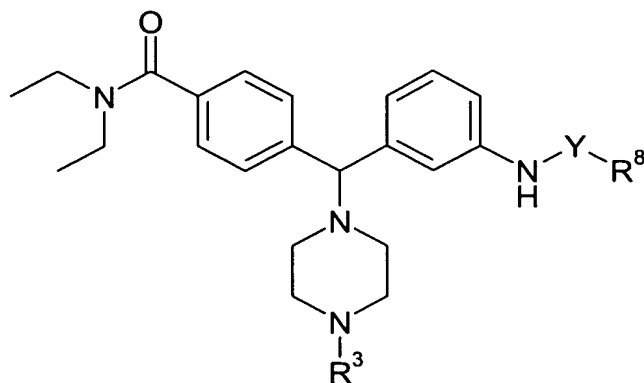
X is halogen;

Y is selected from $-C(=O)-$ and $-S(=O)_2-$;

R^8 is selected from C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl; wherein said C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OH$, C_{1-3} alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen; and

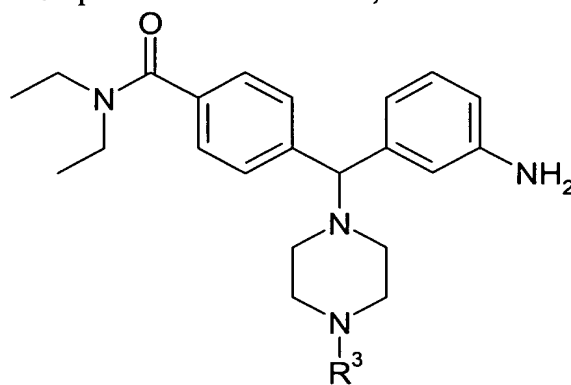
R^3 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl, $-NO_2$, $-CF_3$, C_{1-6} alkoxy and halogen.

Claim 21. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula IX,



IX

comprising: reacting a compound of formula VIII,



VIII

with R^8 -Z to form the compound of formula IX:
wherein

Z is selected from -NCO and -NCS;

Y is selected from -C(=O)NH- and -C(=S)NH-;

R^8 is selected from C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl; wherein said C_{3-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-6} heteroaryl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, C_{1-3} alkoxy, phenoxy, and halogen; and

R^3 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C(=O)-, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C_{1-6} alkoxy and halogen.